

R E V I E W.

Tuesday, June 9. 1713.

I Have given Notice in my last of my Resolution to lay down this Paper; and to shew you that I am in earnest, you will find me draw it speedily to a close.

Yet let no Man mistake my voluntary Recess, for suppression of Power; I understand *English* Liberty better than so, no Man on Earth can oblige me not to write; the Laws may call me to an Account for what I write, but not for writing; and therefore none that understands our Constitution can say, I am forced to desist.

But I am really tired with the Strife; the implacable Spirit, and the dreadful Inveteracy of Parties on both sides, makes me weary of the Work: And as I wrote always with a view of Usefulness and doing Good; when that View ceases, and I find it fruitless to talk to you; I shall convince you that my View was sincerely what I always pretended, (*viz.*) to do you Good, by laying down my Work, when find that Good hopeless.

As Force has compelled me to lay down, so I have been far from espousing any Principle that I should be afraid to own, or that should incline me to run away from my Cause, as others have done: It was ever any part of my Character to be afraid of a Man, *that shall die*, or of the honest Cause of Truth *which shall live*, when you that oppose it shall be alluried in Dust and Forgetfulness; and shall only be remembered for your violent opposing your own Peace, and betraying your Posterity.

The People and Party I always loved and espous'd have forsaken the Spirit of Peace, and the knowledge of their real Interest, and have sold their Christian Liberty, O DISMAL! to thy empty and foolish projects; in which, tho' thou wert always Knave enough to design their Ruin, thou wert never Fool enough to believe that what thou promis'dst to them could be brought to pass: So that the Cheat was manifest to all that had any Eyes; and no Whigs, but such as had as vile a Cause as thine to carry on, could come into it. O Dismal! Dismal! Thou hast ruin'd the Dissenters, but hast brought to pass nothing for the blinded Whigs, that treacherously sold their Brethren to thee, but hast left them to see thou art the same unperforming Thing, which they themselves,

when their Eyes were open, knew thee to be, and Lampoon'd thee for.

The Heats and Rage which the honest People have given themselves up to, *I cannot*, God knows I speak Truth, I CANNOT go along with: If I speak at all of them, I must, *I say* I MUST Oppose them; and being loth to expose them, I therefore resolve to say nothing.

The Spirit of Love, Union, Charity, and Concert one with another, which is the only thing that can preserve the Interest of the Dissenters, and make them considerable, *is gone*! No wonder their Interest sinks, when God wills that the last shall recover, he will restore to them the first; and till then, I would advise them seriously to consider to what ruin they are hastening.

All sides have sold, banter'd, and betray'd them; What have they to do to espouse Parties? Since every Party have set their Foot upon them to mount by, and never taken their Foot off when they were up. They have a Religious Interest able to support their Civil; would they cleave to one another, they would soon see themselves able to act in another Posture, than ever yet they did, without having any hand in the Strife of Courts, and the Ambition of Parties in the State, or without moving any side to crush or oppress them.

But they are harden'd against Advice; a sad Token their Judgment, not their Deliverance, is nigh! God give them Wisdom and Prudence what to say, and what not to say; what to do, and what not to do, that they may neither betray nor expose an honest Cause and Principle: I find I can do them no good, and I will do them no harm, and therefore I resolve to say no more.

As to the War abroad, what I always said would come to pass, is now come to pass; the Emperour will be last in the Peace, as he is always first in the War; the Court of *Vienna* having made War as long, at other Nations' Expence, as they could, are now obliged to make War at their own — Some People promise themselves great things from this War, and mighty things they talk of the Power of the Emperour: Such People would do me a great deal of Justice, if they would compare those Discourses with

with what they said to me when I talk'd formerly of the House of *Austria* being made too great; then he was a weak Prince, and could never be made strong; and yet now they are in hopes he shall be able to Fight the *French*, whom the whole Confederate Force could not Conquer.

Again; What comes of the frightful Stories we have had of the *French* Power, and its being so great, that he will soon Conquer all *Europe*, and impose what King he pleases upon us; and yet now this Emperour, who was before able to do nothing, gives us hopes of Conquering him, by that Power, forsooth, that was able to do nothing before.

These happy Contradictions convince rational Men, how inconsistent the Notions of our People are, and what Changes they will run, to carry on their Party Pretensions.

But what is the Power of *Germany* and the House of *Austria*? The *Flying-Post* reckons up 460000 Men and upwards; a mighty Force! And this was the very Reason why I said it was not fit such a Prince should be King of *Spain*.

It is true, *Germany* is an inexhaustible Fountain of Men, and those Men as good Soldiers as the World can produce: But they have not the Money, says another! No, Sir, nor is it fit they should; and therefore I say again, it was not fit he that was King of *Spain* should be made Emperour; What could not the House of *Austria* do with the Wealth of *America* and the Strength of *Germany*!

When the *French* King dup'd the Confederates into the absurdity of choosing the same Person Emperour, whom they had made King of *Spain*; he knew very well that Folly would be their Ruin; and therefore when the Elector of *Bavaria* would have had an Army to to have march'd and disturb'd the Election at *Frankfort*: NO; said the King of France, it is the only Game they can play, effectually to restore your Highness, and save me; for it is so contrary to the Foundation upon which they began the War, that it must at last bring them into Confusion, one among another; and thus it has fallen out; neither indeed could it be otherwise by the nature of the thing.

When King *William* form'd the first Treaty of Partition, this was the Maxim he went upon, *Spain must never be united, either to France or Germany; if to either, Europe is enslav'd, and the Protestant Religion ruin'd*: I am a Witness for his Majesty against this Generation, that this was his Rule, and every Inch they have gone from this Foundation, has been a building on the Sand, and accordingly the Work has buried the Builders.

For this Cause, when that wise King form'd the Treaty of Partition, he obliged the Emperours, *Leopold* and *Joseph*, to give Renunciations of all their Claims to the Crown of *Spain*, as well as the Kings of France; which, let Renunciations be of as little substance as they will, were as valid on one side, as on the other. The Reasons of all which are confirm'd to be, as I say they are, by the Words of the Treaty of Partition thus.

"But on Condition, nevertheless that the said Kingdoms of *Spain* and the *Indies* shall never be united, or belong to the Person of him

"who shall be Emperour, or King of the Roman Empire; or is become one or the other.

"And in like manner the said Kingdoms of *Spain* and the *Indies* shall never be united, or belong to the Person of him who shall be King, or Dauphin of France, or that is become one or the other. See the 9th Article of the Treaty of Partition.

And yet the blinded *Dutch*, and the rest of the Confederacy, infatuated from Heaven, run headlong upon that ruinous Step, and chose that Maximilian Emperour, whom they had before made King of *Spain*!

But that the blessed elevated State, in which I believe the Soul of that glorious Mortal and my great and dear Master now Triumphs; admits no abatement of Joy, his Zeal for the good of *Europe* and the Protestant Cause, his Love to his Native Country, and to those Nations whose Liberty he restor'd, WAS SUCH, that these things must have touch'd him, even in his exalted State; and he must have visited us in Thunders, to have testified against that stupidity of Men; and I confess it has been some addition to the Doubts I have had about Apparitions, that he has not; but as this cannot be, his Care for their Safety, testified in that Treaty of Partition, shall rise up in Judgment against that *Dutch* Conspiracy, I might call it instead of Confederacy, which acted so contrary to the known and establish'd Interest of *Europe*, as to choose a Person Emperour, who was before own'd to be King of *Spain*.

These things I have born my Testimony against, and the Time will come when that Testimony shall appear good, when all the Reproaches I have born for it, shall die, and be forgotten; and till then I can wait in silence, and trouble you no more; only remind you all, That your Sin in that Case may be read in your Punishment.

If any Man say, Why then was the uniting France to the House of *Bourbon* practis'd? I answer, If you will prove that the Kingdoms of *Spain* and France shall by the Peace be united in one Person, I will allow all you can say, against the present Peace, to be true.

Nay, the very Articles of the Peace allow what I say, and the Dispute lies only here; Whether the Provision made to prevent such a Union, is sufficient or no? The Government say it is effectual; and its Confidence thereof have made the Peace. The Opposers say it is not, and therefore condemn the Peace; but the Government confirms what I say was King *William's* Foundation; that if it be not, the design of the Peace is not answered. As for me, I have freely given my Thoughts, to which I refer you, and since Time alone must determine it, the thing being done and past, it is meet we wait; and therefore I lay down that Dispute also.

Only I thought my self bound to give the Reasons for all I have said on this Article, at parting, as a Testimony against the furious Opposition I have met with; and to let Posterity judge by the Event, whether I have been in the right, or you have been in the wrong.